

and tell her everything which has been said and done in the last six weeks.

The murder a week ago between Prosecutor Beekman of Somerset County and Prosecutor Stricker of Middlesex County was their difference of opinion as to the value of the narrative of Mrs. Gibson.

Mr. Beekman had known Mrs. Gibson for years and had investigated complaints from her against her neighbors which involved everything from pig sties to the soliciting of a bribe by a trusted official of Rutgers College. He believed her dramatic account of the murder and had a stenographer take it down. But his estimate of its actual value is best exemplified by his failure to ask Mrs. Gibson to sign it.

Mr. Stricker of Middlesex heard of this statement and ordered County Detective David and Grand Jury Clerk Anthony Silzer (brother of the Democratic candidate for Governor of New Jersey) to go to Mrs. Gibson's home and get her narrative in legal form. Detective Totten of Somerset accompanied them.

The record of that proceeding shows Mrs. Gibson swore she did not recover her moccasins when she was opposite the crabapple tree on the Phillips farm but that she missed it after she arrived at her home, and worrying about the loss for more than three hours, returned to the neighborhood of the Phillips farm at about 1 o'clock in the morning and saw a woman weeping over one of two bodies under the crabapple tree.

She also described in great detail the gruesome tale of the flight of Mrs. Mills from the fight which she had witnessed earlier, her hiding in the weeds and her being dragged back to be shot to death and almost beheaded by her self-appointed executioners.

## SECOND STATEMENT SIX TIMES LONGER THAN FIRST.

The first unsigned statement covered two "legal cap" pages with about six lines on a third page. The sworn statement covered twelve pages.

Mr. Beekman said he would not go to the Grand Jury with Mrs. Gibson's stories. Mr. Stricker said that unless Mr. Beekman took action they had reached the parting of the ways. Mr. Beekman said that if he told the Grand Jury the truth as he knew it, the Grand Jury would dismiss his complaint. Mr. Stricker said word to Supreme Court Justice Parker, asking him to order the appointment of a special Attorney General to supersede both of them.

That part of the former woman's story of how she happened to be riding her mule through the woods about 9:30 at night, which has been told, she had seen a woman in a gray coat in the glare of an automobile's headlights. A short time later she saw two men and two women under the crabapple tree. They were quarrelling and the woman in gray demanded of Mr. Hall and Mrs. Mills:

"How do you explain this?" It is assumed she was confronting them with the notes later found near the bodies.

Almost immediately after she heard this demand, she was fired and one of the men fell. The woman in gray was heard to scream: "Oh, don't! Please don't!" and a short time later the other woman cried out as if in protest "Oh Henry."

Then Mrs. Mills ran. She could be heard to shout to the men, stumbling through the dark undergrowth. The murderer, with a flashlight, searched until he discovered her, covering twenty-five or thirty yards away. She was dragged back, screaming, fighting and begging for mercy.

When the murderer had her over the rector's body he fired three or four shots into her head and laid her beside the clergyman. The flight through the woods might account for the scratches on Mrs. Mills' hands and arms, at first believed due to finger nails, her throat was cut after she was shot.

## SAW WOMAN KNEELING BESIDE SLAIN COUPLE.

It was then that Mrs. Gibson says she dug her heels into the mule and hurried home. For an hour she debated what to do, and then, partly through curiosity and partly to look for a moccasin she had lost and valued highly because it was a treasured gift, she rode back.

She then saw a couple to slump and crouch close to the murder scene. There, she said, she saw the woman in gray bending over the body of the man, weeping convulsively. By that time a quarter moon was shining. This is part of the new statement: "It was by the light of a quarter moon that I saw the woman whom I have already identified bending over the bodies of the Rev. Edward W. Hall and Mrs. Eleanor Mills and weeping."

"I had returned to search for a moccasin that I had lost on my way home. The moccasin was a gift from a dead friend and I did not wish to lose it. I had not stopped to tie it when I hastened down from the house earlier in the evening."

"It was now about 1 o'clock and the moon was out. I had no flashlight, but I could easily discern. The same woman I had seen in the lane earlier in the evening. She had the same light hair and wore the same light colored coat and no hat. She was kneeling over two dark objects, talking as though her heart would break."

## THINK WOMAN CLOSED MINISTER'S EYELIDS.

"I did not know until Saturday morning that the prone forms were the dead Rev. Mr. Hall and Mrs. Mills, but the sobbing was beneath the crabapple tree. It was evidently she who closed the eyelids of the minister, a fact that has been much commented on."

"I have been able to identify definitely the woman, because I passed my mule just as she was. She had very light hair, appearing blonde by the automobile lights, the shade which white hair would appear by such lights. She wore no hat, but a long light colored coat. She appeared to be past middle age. She was short but rather stout."

"Her chin sloped down into her

neck in a characteristic way I could not forget."

"The man was very large—surely over six feet. His complexion was so dark that I could not distinguish his features, and then, too, he did not face me as fully as the woman. He had a great mop of lousy black hair, was not fat, but had a mustache."

It is understood the detectives have a corroborating witness in the person of Mrs. Gibson, twenty-one-year-old son William, who has confirmed her story as to the trip she took from home that night.

In another respect the investigators are said not to have been so fortunate. They are reported to have found the owner of one of the automobiles Mrs. Gibson saw just before the murder. He does not live in New Brunswick. A woman with him, he denied seeing or hearing anything leading up to the murder, but is to be questioned further.

Mr. Mott let it be known the only reason the suspected persons are not now in custody is that his judgment does not advise their arrest just yet. Arresting and indicting persons for murder is one thing, he said. Convincing a jury of their absolute guilt is another. He prefers to assure himself, if it is possible to do so, that his jury case is hopeless before he takes the step he is justified in taking now, asking for indictments and arrest.

Several persons known or believed to possess knowledge of great importance in preparation of the case for trial are yet to be included in the list of the Commonwealth's willing witnesses.

Henry Stevens of Lavalloite, N. J., a brother of Mrs. Hall, has taken cognizance of references made to him in the case and declares he has an alibi backed by ten persons, all well known and reputable. He gave the names of nine and said if necessary he would tell who the other is. These found by reporters corroborated him. He and his wife referred to Mrs. Gibson's story as sounding "like a lot of rubbish."

Henry Stevens said frankly at Lavalloite: "It will not worry me a minute if Henry were arrested. In fact, we would welcome it, because it would mean his eventual elimination from the case. We welcome Mrs. Gibson's story because it appears to give some definite points from which the authorities can work, and no one is more interested in having this mystery solved than we are. But I must say that her story sounds like a lot of rubbish."

## WORK ON NEW GOLF COURSE BEGINS MONDAY

At a meeting of the Bailey Park Company yesterday the following board of directors was appointed: George H. Gaskie, John T. Holmes, Edwin W. Fluke, Joseph T. McCord, Charles R. Johnson, Mark D. Siles and Albert F. Gschelst.

The Bailey Park Company is a syndicate that has taken over the estate of the late James A. Bailey at Mount Vernon for the purpose of transforming the grounds and buildings into what is now the Bailey Park Hotel and Country Club. Work on the new eighteen-hole golf course starts Monday.

## FORMER QUARANTINE COMMISSIONER DEAD

Joseph Simonson, sixty, a lifelong resident of Staten Island, died yesterday at his home in Port Richmond. He was a former Quarantine Commissioner, a former County Clerk of Richmond County, and was at one time Chairman of the Republican County Committee. He was a member of Richmond Lodge, F. and A. M., and a Past District Deputy Grand Master.

## ITALY PROCLAIMS MARTIAL LAW, THEN RESCINDS ORDER; CITIES SEIZED

(Continued.)

In order to safeguard the citizens and their constitutional institutions, the Government's expectation that the citizens will remain calm and have confidence in the measures taken for their safety.

"Long live Italy!" "Long live the King!"

PARIS, Oct. 28 (United Press).—The Fascists are concentrating in several Italian cities, an unconditional report reaching here today. This report, which came from Rome, stated that the Fascists have overcome the military police at Florence, where resistance was met, and occupied the Post Office.

The barracks at Siena have been occupied and strong concentrations are in progress at Pisa, Livorno and Leghorn. It was said. The towns seized were said to have offered no resistance, except in Cremona, where six Fascists were shot.

In Milan, where there is a great display of troops, everything is now quiet. It was stated.

From Milan came reports that a virtual state of siege exists there. The Prefect is said to have handed over powers to the military.

ROME, Oct. 28.—Benito Mussolini was practically dictator of Italy today following the fall of the Cabinet of Premier Facta. Mussolini, head of the Fascists, whose coup was responsible for the resignation of the Facta Government, which was placed in the hands of King Victor Emmanuel last night, came to Rome to confer with parliamentary leaders.

The Fascist head was summoned to Rome by Facta just before the Premier went to the railroad station and presented his resignation to the King.

## NINE ARRESTED AS KIDNAPERS OF WAREHOUSES

Broker, Alleged "Master Mind," Linked Up With \$2,500,000 Mail Robbery.

Arrest of eleven men and seizure of liquor valued at more than \$120,000 were the top exacted to-day from alleged bootleggers by police and Federal agents, and nine of the prisoners are said to be members of a liquor ring which has been for months raiding whiskey stores in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Richmond. The other two arrived in port this morning aboard a sixty-foot launch in tow of the Hensen of the dry navy. On the launch was about \$20,000 worth of whiskey.

The nine men were taken at the point of revolver in the hands of five detectives in the White House Warehouse, No. 31 Moore Street, where five men previously had been arrested and where ninety-two barrels of bonded whiskey was seized. The men were charged with burglary and arraigned before Magistrate Lioia, in Bridge Plaza. They had been in command of two men, but the craft's name appeared to be a misnomer, as her skippers surrendered after a short chase, in which a shot was fired across their bow.

The men said they were Patrick Higgins and K. Castle, both of Seabright. They explained they had been approached yesterday by a man who informed them that a large sailing vessel had been in collision about fourteen miles off Seabright and that he would give them \$200 if they would help him to salvage the cargo. They were to have been met by another boat which would transfer the liquor out to the three-mile limit, they added, but this boat did not put in an appearance and at about 5 o'clock last evening they decided to come into port. The arrest followed.

## LAKE HUNTINGTON COLONISTS PLAN REUNION

The members of the summer colony of Lake Huntington, Sullivan County, N. Y., will have an entertainment and reunion dance this evening at Palm Garden, 58th Street and Lexington Avenue. A one-act musical comedy will be produced by the members of the Metropolitan Minstrels, an amateur theatrical organization.

This affair, held annually, affords the summer guests an opportunity of renewing acquaintance happily begun at its popular resort.

## P. T. FRANCIS, FORMER NEWS-PAPER OWNER, DIES

TROY, N. Y., Oct. 28.—Pomeroy Tucker Francis, formerly of the proprietors of the Troy Times, died today while undergoing an operation in New York City. He is survived by his widow, formerly Miss Frances Cottle of Morristown, N. J., three children, his mother, a brother, John M. Francis, of the Troy Times, and three sisters.

## CITY'S BUDGET \$38,625,000 MORE THAN IN 1922; ONLY \$6,000,000 MANDATORY

(Continued.)

amount of \$32,625,000 which ought normally to represent a deduction is absorbed in it.

There has been a great deal of dissatisfaction in the Board of Estimate over Mayor Hylan's insistence upon holding executive sessions in making up the budget. Secret sessions of that character have hitherto been unknown.

A comparison of the budget for 1917 and 1923 shows these increases:

Police Department ..... \$18,200,341  
Fire Department ..... 9,090,389  
Board of Health ..... 3,808,241  
Street Cleaning ..... 9,090,389  
Dock Department ..... 1,502,000  
Water Supply, Gas and Electricity ..... 5,990,788  
Department of Correction ..... 1,514,882  
Plant and Structures ..... 1,357,437  
Department of Finance ..... 1,376,776  
Law Department ..... 853,705  
Department of Taxes and Ass'ts ..... 573,277  
Department of Public Welfare ..... 4,322,190  
Board of Elections ..... 1,271,047  
Commissioner of Accounts ..... 251,206  
Board of Purchase ..... 872,522  
Board of Child Welfare ..... 1,286,600  
Charitable Institutions ..... 5,582,435  
Education ..... 8,745,563  
Borough Presidents ..... 42,331  
Board of Aldermen ..... 289,958  
County Government ..... 7,341,317  
Debt Service ..... 69,744,588  
Total ..... \$195,763,496

These are not all of the sources of city expenditure in which there have been increases, and they do not include all of the budget items.

A certain part of these increases, as in the case of the Street Cleaning, is due to mandatory legislation. But the great increases in the Police and Fire Departments have been only partly the result of mandatory legislation. In part they have been caused by increases in the force and partly by increase of overhead charges.

In the case of the Street Cleaning, Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, Board of Health and many other departments or bureaus mandatory legislation has had nothing to do with increased expenditures.

The mounting cost of government reflected in the 1923 budget, and the direct interest of the house owners and rent payers as further reflected in greatly increased taxes is the subject of a statement issued by the Real Estate Board of New York.

## Long Skirt Banned As Unhealthy By Federation of Women's Clubs

Must Be at Least Seven Inches From Ground—Electrode Starts Row in Convention.

The autumn convention of the New York City Federation of Women's Clubs has gone on record as opposed to any skirt that is longer than seven inches from the ground. During its session yesterday afternoon at the Hotel Astor a resolution to this effect was unanimously adopted, on the ground that longer skirts bring germs into the home. The resolution also brought women to get their dressmakers to cut their garments so there shall be perfect freedom of all parts of the body.

Delegates from New Jersey reported they had sent a petition to the Public Service Railway Company to lower the steps of trolley cars so that feminine patrons may negotiate them without resorting to athletics. A great commotion was caused at yesterday's session by several members engaging in Republican and Democratic electioneering, in opposition to the Federation's rules. The political enthusiasts were striving to find out who intended voting Democratic and who Republican in the coming election. An effort was made to stop this by appeal to hotel employees, but it was explained that the hotel was powerless as the electioneering was going on in the public lobby, not the lobby of the Federation meeting place.

result of a tip reaching Prohibition headquarters here that a large fleet of rum runners were due to arrive in New York waters from the Bahamas. The Hansen cruised about and late last night turned its flashlight on the 60-foot motor launch Dodge, in command of two men, but the craft's name appeared to be a misnomer, as her skippers surrendered after a short chase, in which a shot was fired across their bow.

The men said they were Patrick Higgins and K. Castle, both of Seabright. They explained they had been approached yesterday by a man who informed them that a large sailing vessel had been in collision about fourteen miles off Seabright and that he would give them \$200 if they would help him to salvage the cargo. They were to have been met by another boat which would transfer the liquor out to the three-mile limit, they added, but this boat did not put in an appearance and at about 5 o'clock last evening they decided to come into port. The arrest followed.

The young woman who was taken to the hospital was Edna Edell, thirty, of No. 455 West 23d Street. She was riding with Eustace J. Kametta of No. 230 West 11th Street. The machine collided with another at Riverside Drive and 88th Street. Policeman Sullivan placed the woman in the second car and rushed her to St. Luke's Hospital. The car was driven by William D. Carroll of Brewster, N. Y.

## BOY DIES OF AUTO HURT

Philip Gruffer, nine years old, of No. 81 Elizabeth Street, died at St. Vincent's Hospital from injuries he received when struck by an automobile at Grand and Centre Streets Thursday.

## HOBOS REST FEET, USE FISTS AT CONVENTION

Followers of President Howe Lost First Clash.

COLUMBUS, O., Oct. 28.—Near fist fights marked the opening session of the National Hobo Convention here today. The Credentials Committee in a report bitterly attacked President James Eads Howe, "Millionaire Hobo" of St. Louis, recommending that he be ousted.

The committee marshaled a majority and threatened to refuse to recognize Howe sympathizers as authorized delegates to the convention. A near riot followed.

## VIOLATED TRAFFIC LAW, CALLED TO OWN COURT

Policeman Tags Judge's Car, Who Is Fines Other Offenders.

HARTFORD, Oct. 28.—While Judge Solomon Elmer was presiding in Police Court his automobile, parked outside the station, was tagged by Patrolman Peter J. Dorsey for being in a restricted district for more than 40 minutes. The tag notified the owner to appear in Police Court this morning.

elsewhere. Christler, who was forty-six years old, had held charges in New York and New Jersey. He came to Montana in 1907 as missionary of the Milk River Valley and had developed his field into one of the largest missions territories in the United States.

Mrs. Christler is the daughter of the late David Wadsworth, Auburn, N. Y., manufacturer, and is a niece of United States Senator James W. Wadsworth Jr. The Christlers were married in 1914 when the clergyman was designated "Bishop of all outdoors." Indiana, women, women of the plains and homesteaders alike shared his confidence and they attached the unusual cognomen to him because his service always has been for them and because he always fought for their rights to the very last ditch.

In an unsuccessful effort to establish a motive for the shooting, officers yesterday partly reconstructed a number of mutilated letters found in a room Mrs. Carleton had occupied in a local hotel. They declared, however, that they could find no mention of the dead clergyman in these letters, which came from Mrs. Carleton's mother, daughter and husband, former Judge Frank Carleton, from whom she was separated. One of the letters from the husband, officers said, mentioned that he was sending her a sum of money.

Mrs. Christler, describing the shooting, said that Mrs. Carleton came to the Christler home late Thursday night and remained until early Friday morning. When she started to leave the clergyman accompanied her toward the entrance, the widow said, and just had shut a door between Mrs. Carleton and the room where Mrs. Christler was left when two shots rang out. Mrs. Christler opened the door and found the bodies of that of Mrs. Carleton being across the minister's body.

## SAY HIRED ASSASSIN KILLED OHIO WOMAN

CLEVELAND, O., Oct. 28 (Associated Press).—Police made an effort yesterday to break through the barrier of mystery which has closed about the murder of Mrs. Hazel Burns, whose body was found late Wednesday buried in a shallow grave near Palmyra, Lake County.

The Cleveland officers said they were now working on a theory that a hired assassin may have committed the crime.

## EUROPEANS RAISE MILLIONS TO FIGHT PROHIBITION HERE

New Anti-Dry League Offers All Help It Can Give to American Wets.

PARIS, Oct. 28 (Associated Press).—The anti-Prohibition campaign to be conducted in America by European wets, which was secretly elaborated recently in Brussels, will be more in the nature of a co-operative movement with the liquor forces of the United States, it was learned today. The newly organized International League Against Prohibition will open a large office in Paris, from which a "merciless" fight against the dry forces of all nations will be directed. A large fund reaching many millions of francs has been pledged by the wine interests of Europe.

The organizers say they have little to fear from the Prohibition forces in Europe. Their chief concern is to give every possible assistance to American wets.

"We are not going to America to ask the United States to overthrow Prohibition," said Jean Couppie, one of the French delegates to the Brussels convention. "We would probably be politely but firmly ejected if we did, and rightly so. However, we believe our cause is just as legitimate as that of the Prohibitionists. American supporters of Prohibition have taken the liberty of sending their apostles to Europe. We believe we have at least the right to offer our whole-hearted support to American wets, if they will accept. They will find our organization amply backed financially and with 100,000,000 advocates back of it."

"We believe Americans are much impressed by scientific facts and investigations by unbiased professional men. Tests of the effect of the moderate use of wine and beer on the average human being are now being conducted by well-known scientists and doctors. They will be completed in several months and will be passed on to America without comment."

"Further details of the American campaign naturally await the attitude of the American wets toward our offer of co-operation."

Count Bertrand D'Amont, President of the new organization, is a former Deputy and President of one of the largest champagne companies in France. He was formerly an extensive exporter to the United States.

## KAISER'S BRIDE-TO-BE WILL LIVE AT DOORN ONLY PART OF YEAR

William Cannot Leave, So He's Worried—Likewise Told of Many Changes She Wants in Home.

LONDON, Oct. 28. Princess Hermine of Reuss, soon to become the bride of the former German Emperor, is reported to have told William that she will be unable to stay at Doorn for more than four or five months each year.

The former Kaiser is worrying a good deal over alterations in his home which she has asked, but is doing his utmost to make the residence as agreeable for her as possible.

The correspondent says the wish of the former Kaiser to have the bells of the neighborhood country-side rung on his wedding day is not likely to be gratified.

No minister of the gospel ever attracted the attention in the Northwest that Dr. Christler has. He came to Montana in 1907, long before the prairie had been yielded by the cowboy to the influx of homesteaders.

He set to work developing his territory until St. Mark's, of which he was pastor, became one of the strongest and most influential units of the Episcopal Church in Montana. His service among his parishioners soon gained for him the designation of "Bishop of all outdoors." Indiana, women, women of the plains and homesteaders alike shared his confidence and they attached the unusual cognomen to him because his service always has been for them and because he always fought for their rights to the very last ditch.

He was the friend of every one who needed a friend and cared little for matters that would seem to reflect on his reputation if what he was doing promised to do some one else some good.

Once he challenged a gang who had been denouncing the church to a free-for-all fight, warning them that he would give them "the damndest tiffin" of his life. This made such a hit with the men that they declined the challenge. He invited them to come to his church and they said they would if he "would tell them where to hell his church was."

It was his constant prayer that "The good Lord keep me from becoming a tramp or a pious nonentity." In Havre, a small community, he built one of the finest granite churches in the entire Northwest. In December 1920, before it was formally opened, he had it utilized for the funeral of "Long George" Francis, an old-time cowboy, known from the Canadian to the Mexican border, who later turned cow rustler and was at the time of his death a fugitive from justice.

Dr. Christler was a friend of the late James J. Hill, the "Empire Builder," and of John D. Ryan, head of the Anaconda Copper Company, as well as of the other great figures of the Montana country. He had been active in politics and served one term in the State Legislature. Always irascible in the extreme, his death was not much more sensational than other episodes in his career since he came to the West.

## FEET AND ARM OF WOMAN FOUND IN BROOKLYN LOT

Children Make a Chastly Discovery in Bundle Left Near Canarsie Meadows.

Police of the Missing Persons Bureau to-day was searching their records to learn if the description of the clothing of any woman reported missing corresponds with that of the fragments of dress, undershirt and other attire found wrapped about the legs and left arm of a woman which were discovered by children in a vacant lot at East 98th Street and Blake Avenue, Brooklyn.

The spot is at the edge of the Canarsie meadows and meanwhile detectives are searching as far as Jamaica Bay for the trunk and head of the slain woman.

The lot is in the vicinity of where Mrs. Emma MacDonald, a B. R. T. ticket agent, was slain three or four years ago by a Negro who later was executed for her murder. There are many foreigners in the neighborhood.

## JOE WEILER CONVICTED OF U. S. PLATINUM THEFT

New Yorker Found Guilty by Jury in Washington.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Oct. 28.—Joe Weiler of New York was found guilty yesterday afternoon in the United States District Court of one count in the indictment which charged conspiracy to aid in concealing embezzled property of the United States, namely platinum from the Old Hickory power plant.

Weiler's attorneys were given till today to file a motion for a new trial. The maximum punishment is two years in prison and \$10,000 fine. Meyer Ripstein and Abe Roth, indicted on the same charge, have pleaded guilty.

## POISONED BY CAKE WHICH CAME BY MAIL

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 28.—W. W. Sterrett, expert accountant, and his wife are in Bryn Mawr Hospital in a critical condition to-day, the result of having eaten a cake they received in the mail yesterday. It came in a box without identification marks. Believing it came from a friend, the couple ate it and supper and were stricken.

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Mrs. Carleton being across the minister's body.

## INFLATUION FOR RECTOR REVEALED IN LETTERS OF WOMAN WHO KILLED HIM

(Continued.)

mer home in Cayuga County, New York.

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## HAMMER MURDER WITNESS TELLS OF THREATS ON LIFE

Peggy Caffee Says She Saw Mrs. Phillips Beat Rival to Death.

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 28.—Prosecution and defense were busy to-day with preparations for the resumption Monday of the trial of Mrs. Clara Phillips for the murder of Mrs. Albert Tremaine Meadows, young widow, who was beaten to death with a hammer. No session was held to-day.

Yesterday Mrs. Peggy Caffee, former chorus girl and principal witness for the State, gave the jury the version of a reputed eye witness to the slaying.

After declaring she had seen Mrs. Phillips strike Mrs. Meadows repeatedly with a hammer and had seen the defendant bending over the unconscious form of the young widow, Mrs. Caffee gave her version of her alleged trip back into the city from the outlying district. She testified:

"As we were driving toward town she said: 'You remember, Alberta Meadows, admitting receiving about things from my husband.' I made no answer, as I knew she did not. I asked her how she could go home, and wasn't her conscience guilty. She replied: 'I would kill any woman